

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1991, CONTINUED

Clay will put her portion of money back into the retirement system (interest to be determined later) and retirement contributions are to be withheld from her check beginning with the February payroll.

Scott Orbison, Secretary to the Tulsa County Election Board, was present to brief the Board on the state's plan to furnish new voting machines to every county in Oklahoma. The State Election Board has signed a contract with Business Records Corporation for 2,500 voting devices which will be used to conduct elections in every precinct in the state. Lance Ward, Secretary of the State Election Board, notified the Board that these devices will replace the voting devices currently owned by and used in Tulsa County. Orbison told the Board this comes at a very good time for the Tulsa County Election Board. He noted that the county's 287 voting machines are nearly worn out, are constantly being repaired, and parts are becoming scarce. He added, that they will do well to last through 1992. By that time, Orbison said, he hopes to have in place the new machines the state is providing to create a statewide, uniform system of casting and counting ballots.

Orbison said the new machines which the state is furnishing are faster and more efficient than our current system. They will allow all ballot questions to be listed on the same side. Orbison noted the only downside will be the loss of about \$167,000 a year in revenue from letting other governmental entities use the county's machines. However, when the state installs its new machines they will pay for the maintenance costs. Orbison told the Board he has received an inquiry from another state to buy about 85 of the county's old machines. Orbison will keep the Board advised on the disposition of our existing machines and all other matters pertaining to the subject. Board action was not necessary on this item.

Ray Jordan was present to discuss the new commercial driver's license requirements. Jordan stated he has reviewed all of the requirements for the new license testing, and he believes that Tulsa County should consider a formal training program for our existing employees to insure proper preparation for taking the necessary test. Depending upon the class of license required, an employee might be required to take three or four different written tests. Jordan noted that while some of our employees have excellent driving records, they may have a difficult time passing these tests without special training because of limited reading skills. Based upon this analysis, the Highway Division contacted various groups and reviewed their training programs and concluded that Tri-County Vo-Tech in Bartlesville offered the best program for our special training requirements.

This program would provide 18 hours of training for each employee for a fee of \$27.00. Jordan said he would expect to send around 125 employees to the training sessions. He noted if the Board agrees with the proposed program and funds the testing and license fees as proposed by the Parks Division the projected costs for the Highway division would cost \$10,875.

Motion by Harris, seconded by Selph, authorizing and instructing division directors to proceed with meeting requirements; employee attendance at the two training classes already established, with those whose licenses are soon to expire having priority; authorizing payment of appropriate schooling, and authorizing repayment of the fees involved, per the schedule as outlined by Jordan. Upon roll call: Selph, yes; Dick, yes; Harris, yes. Motion carried.

Jordan will coordinate with other divisions and monitor the entire subject on behalf of the Board.

Gary Cox, counsel for the City-County Health Department, was present to brief the Board on the January 25th memorandum received from Dr. Glyn Caldwell, Director of the Health Department. The memo contained recommendations regarding Tulsa County benefit plans, as they pertain to Health Department employees who have been or might be called to active military duty.

The following are the suggested policy changes regarding County benefits:

1. That the County Employees' Health Plan be amended to allow Reservist' and National Guard dependents who are currently covered on medical insurance to continue coverage by paying the current dependent premiums up to a maximum of six months (the cost to the County for the County's portion of the premium would be approximately \$150.00 per month for up to six months); and,
2. That the County Employee's Retirement Plan rules be amended to provide Reservist and National Guard personnel called to active duty will receive credited service and continuous employment, but no earnings for time spent on active duty.

Following a brief discussion the Board concurred that while they are in support of the recommendations as presented, before they could formally approve it the District Attorney's office should look at the proposals to be certain the County is in compliance with existing statutes.